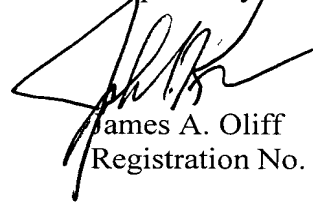


In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JSK/kap

Attachments:

Substitute Abstract
Substitute Specification along with marked-up copy showing the changes made thereto
Appendix

Date: March 12, 2002

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a projector which, by a simple method, makes it possible to eliminate the chances of incident light directly striking a drive element. The invention can be accomplished by shifting an optical axis of a field lens provided at the light-incident side of a liquid crystal panel parallel to a center axis of light incident thereupon. The optical axis of the field lens being shifted so that the incident angle of light striking the drive element is made small when the center axis of the incident light and the optical axis coincide. Therefore, there is no oblique light that strikes the drive element, so that scratching, breakage, and malfunctioning of the drive element do not result, thereby making it possible to increase the quality of a projected image.

APPENDIX

Changes to Abstract:

The following is a marked-up version of the amended Abstract.

[Name of Document] ————— ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[Abstract]

————— [Object] ~~To provide~~ The present invention provides a projector which, by a simple method, makes it possible to eliminate the chances of incident light directly striking a drive element.

————— [Solving Means] ——— ~~An~~ The invention can be accomplished by shifting an optical axis FCL of a field lens provided at the light-incident side of a liquid crystal panel 411 is shifted parallel to a center axis FCL0 of light incident thereupon. The optical axis FCL of the field lens is being shifted so that the incident angle of light striking the drive element is made small when the center axis FCL0 of the incident light and the optical axis FCL coincide.

Therefore, there is no oblique light that strikes the drive element, so that scratching, breakage, and malfunctioning of the drive element do not result, thereby making it possible to increase the quality of a projected image.

[Selected Figure] ————— Fig. 11

Changes to Specification:

A Substitute Specification is attached in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.125(b)(2).

~~—[Claim 1]—~~ 1. (Amended) A projector, comprising:

————— a light source;

————— a liquid crystal device which modulates light emitted from the light source;

————— the liquid crystal device having a base substrate that has a plurality of pixel electrodes disposed in a matrix arrangement and a plurality of drive elements corresponding to the pixel electrodes and electrically coupled therewith, a counter substrate provided with a

light-shielding mask that covers at least a portion of the drive elements, and liquid crystals provided between the base substrate and the counter substrate, wherein an angle of light incident upon the liquid crystal device is restricted so that the light does not strike the drive elements; and

_____ a projection lens which projects the light modulated by the liquid crystal device;

~~_____ wherein the liquid crystal device comprises a base substrate that has a plurality of pixel electrodes disposed in a matrix arrangement and drive elements each provided for corresponding one of the pixel electrodes and electrically connected thereto, a counter-substrate provided with a light-shielding mask which covers at least a portion of the drive elements, and liquid crystals provided between the base substrate and the counter-substrate; and~~

~~_____ wherein the angle of light incident upon the liquid crystal device is restricted not to allow the light to strike the drive elements.~~

~~[Claim 2]~~ 2. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ a condenser lens is being further provided at a light-incident side of the liquid crystal device, and ~~wherein~~, by shifting a center axis of light incident upon the condenser lens and an optical axis of the condenser lens in parallel so that the incident angle of light that strikes the drive elements becomes small when the center axis of the light incident upon the condenser lens and the optical axis of the condenser lens coincide, the angle of the light incident upon the liquid crystal device is restricted.

~~[Claim 3]~~ 3. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 2, ~~wherein~~ an optical axis of the projection lens is being shifted parallel to the center axis of the light incident upon the condenser lens in the same direction as the optical axis of the condenser lens.

~~-[Claim 4]-~~ 4. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ a micro-lens array, comprising a plurality of lenses corresponding to the pixel electrodes, is being further provided at a light-incident side of the base substrate, and ~~wherein~~, by shifting a center axis of light incident upon the micro-lens array and a center of the micro-lens array so that the incident angle of light that strikes the drive elements becomes small when the center axis of the light incident upon the micro-lens array and the center of the micro-lens array coincide, the angle of the light incident upon the liquid crystal device is restricted.

~~-[Claim 5]-~~ 5. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 4, ~~wherein~~ the micro-lens array is being provided on the counter substrate.

6. (Twice Amended) A projector according to Claim 4, ~~wherein~~ an optical axis of the projection lens is being shifted parallel to the center axis of the light incident upon the micro-lens array in the same direction as the center of the micro-lens array.

~~-[Claim 7]-~~ 7. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, wherein, by tilting an optical axis of the light source with respect to a normal line of the counter substrate so that the incident angle of light that strikes the drive elements becomes small when the normal line of the counter substrate and the optical axis of the light source are parallel to each other, the angle of the light incident upon the liquid crystal device is restricted.

~~-[Claim 8]-~~ 8. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 7, ~~wherein~~ an optical axis of the projection lens is being shifted parallel to the normal line of the counter substrate in the same direction as the optical axis of the light source.

9. (Twice Amended) A projector according to Claim 7, ~~wherein~~ a micro-lens array, comprising a plurality of lenses corresponding to the pixel electrodes, is being further provided at a light-incident side of the base substrate.

~~10.~~ 10. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 9, ~~wherein~~ optical axes of the plurality of lenses ~~are being~~ shifted parallel to a center of a pixel of the liquid crystal device towards the light source.

11. (Twice Amended) A projector according to ~~either~~ Claim 9, ~~wherein~~ the micro-lens array ~~is being~~ provided on the counter substrate.

12. (Twice Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ a center axis of the light incident upon the liquid crystal device ~~coincides~~ coinciding with a distinct-vision direction of the liquid crystal device.

13. (Twice Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ a viewing angle compensating film which causes a center axis of the light incident upon the liquid crystal device and a distinct-vision direction of the liquid crystal device to coincide ~~is being~~ further provided at the light-incident side of the liquid crystal device.

14. (Twice Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ a viewing angle compensating film which causes a center axis of light emitted from the liquid crystal device and a distinct-vision direction of the liquid crystal device to coincide ~~is being~~ further provided at a light-exiting side of the liquid crystal device.

15. (Twice Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ viewing angle compensating films ~~are being~~ further provided at ~~the~~ a light-incident side and a light-exiting side of the liquid crystal device.

16. (Twice Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ a scanning line and a data line ~~crossing and that crosses and is~~ situated above the scanning line on the base substrate ~~are being~~ provided at the base substrate, and ~~wherein~~ the drive elements ~~are being~~ connected to the data line and the scanning line, and ~~include~~ including channel areas and semiconductor layers situated below the scanning line on the substrate.

17. (Amended) A projector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ a color light separation optical system which separates the light emitted from the light source into light beams of a plurality of colors ~~is~~ being disposed between the light source and the liquid crystal device.

~~[Claim _____ 18].~~ (Amended) A projector according to Claim 17, further comprising a plurality of the liquid crystal devices in correspondence with the light beams of a plurality of colors.